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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 876

By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Lake County Sheriff Joe Jones of Tiptonville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely death of Sheriff Joe Jones of Lake County on Friday, March 3, 2000; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Jones was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Lake County, Joseph Lee Jones, Sr., was born on July 26, 1937, to the late Claude Jones and Margaret Glass Jones, and was the loving brother of Curtis Jones, Carl Jones, Paul David Jones, George Jones, Richard Jones, and Jim Jones, and the late Frances Jones Minton; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Jones was a highly respected member of the Tiptonville and Lake County community; he is believed to have served the longest consecutive tenure as sheriff since the county was created from a portion of Obion County in 1873; and

WHEREAS, Joe Jones served with acumen and alacrity as the Lake County Sheriff for a remarkable 18-year tenure, in which position he earned the respect of all who came to know him as his working style as sheriff was one of compassion for both the victim and the accused; and

WHEREAS, a United States Army Veteran, holding the rank of Sp4 when he was honorably discharged, Sheriff Jones served the good people of Tiptonville and in Lake County in various law-enforcement positions for almost forty years; he was a former deputy for the sheriff's department and was a former City of Tiptonville police officer and former police chief; and

WHEREAS, he has been noted as a clever and tenacious investigator, who was able to boast that all capital crimes were solved quickly during his tenure; his shrewd campaigning was evident in his five successful election bids for Lake County Sheriff; he was an avid outdoorsman, who loved to hunt and fish on the Mississippi River and Reelfoot Lake; and

WHEREAS, Joe was an active and devout member of the Jones Chapel Church of Christ, where he faithfully served his Lord for many years; and

WHEREAS, an active part of the community, Joe Jones was a valued member of the Harmony Lodge #184, AF&M, and the Tennessee Sheriff's Association; and

WHEREAS, a very dependable and trustworthy gentleman, he was a special friend of many folks in Northwest Tennessee; everyone around knew that they could always count on Joe's support and helping hand, as he endeavored to treat others the way he wanted to be treated; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Jones was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Joe Jones enjoyed the loving companionship of his devoted wife, Frances Perkins, and was the proud parent of Joseph Lee Jones, Jr., and Jo Ann Jones Lumley, both of Tiptonville, and the doting grandfather of Natalie and Bobby Lumley; and

WHEREAS, Joe Jones leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Sheriff Joe Jones, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Sheriff Jones.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.